

Warwick Public Schools – School Committee

Parents Communication Advisory Committee

7 p.m. Warwick Public Schools Administration Bldg.

Meeting Minutes October 1, 2009

Mission: To advise and make recommendations to the School Committee as to how we can better facilitate communication by and between parents, school administration and the Warwick School Committee.

Present:

Voting Members: David Testa (Francis, Aldrich; Chair); Marc Comtois (Hoxie); Barbara Supsky (Oakland Beach, Gorton); Patti Nazareth (Greenwood); Heidi Ross (Wyman, Pilgrim); Ed Racca (Sherman); Steve Campanelli (Robertson); Deidre Weedon (Cedar Hill) Tracy McDermott

Peter Horoschak(Superintendent); Patrick Maloney, Lucille Mota-Costa(School Committee)

Non-Voting Members: Margaret Paynich

Meeting called to order at 7:04 p.m. by David Testa

Motion made (Comtois) and 2nd (Campanelli) to accept minutes of September 3, 2009 as distributed.

Completed Business – (David Testa)

- ~1600 completed flyers were returned and will need to be added as e-mail contacts. All schools did distribute flyers, not all on first day.
- School principal's e-mail contact list complete and utilized to ask for distribution of flyers at open houses.
- Additional links added i.e. Warwick Police link added to PCAC website.
- Dianne Silva advised against link from each school's web page due to lack of consistency on individual school sites.

Unfinished Business – (David Testa)

- Contact with Warwick City Council PTA a work in progress
- Copies of Cranston Ed. Advisory by-laws distributed need to review and a sub committee to be formed to develop PCAC by-laws.

New Business –

- School response to e-mail list was very good; help is needed to enter all e-mail. At least 16 schools noted other responses from un-designated schools.
- Committee membership needs to be defined. 3 consecutive missed meeting w/o notice, email will be sent to question if they intend on continuing w/ membership.
- Contact w/ principal's of non-represented schools to ask for representative
- Toll Gate, Scott, Park, Lippitt and Vets among non-represented schools.
- Membership list should have David Testa (Chair) as only contact
- Jessica Shadd asked for link to other Warwick School's committees i.e. Special Education committee, strategic planning committee,

school improvement teams

- Need to update Warwickschools.org. Possibility of using Toll Gate students, note Providence schools website is excellent ... professionally done but high cost.**
- PCAC meetings will be posted in Warwick Beacon bulletin board section. Chair will write the announcement , Secretary will post.**
- H1N1 vaccination clinics are still to be determined, there will need to be Parent/guardian permission to vaccinate**
- Positive feedback on Kim Pisaturo fundraiser held at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, note the donation of time from Warwick and Cranston Police/Fire depts..**

General Discussion-

- Parent concerns at Robertson regarding dogs on playground, various parking issues, and unsupervised teens in school after hours. Member discussion of various methods to solve problems Principal has been contacted regarding issues.**
- Need for character development in schools PBIS program is in place in a number of schools**
- John Wooden agendas (Premier agenda) being used in some schools**
- Reiterate no ice cream sales should be happening in school at lunch**
- Warwick is a leader in the state regarding policies supporting Nutritional Standards**
- National article sites the discovery of PCB's in caulking in schools**
- Update Wyman school – need to contact police first in incident**

involving suspected sex offender on school property

- Connect-ed could be utilized to remind parents of traffic patterns in schools w/ problems**

Updates -

School Committee - (Patrick Maloney, Lucille Mota –Costa)

- Meeting is a week from Tuesday, October 13th should be a short meeting.**

Administration – (Dr. Horoschak)

- Flyer from Aldrich, promoting AskRI.com can be added as link in PCAC website**
- Development of committee to study long-term use of current school bldgs Administration, Union and Parent representation is encouraged. Rep. from Warwick council PTA as well as representative from PCAC...addressing issues of declining enrollment, school consolidation, redistricting, 6th grade move to jr. high, closing of jr/sr high, long range plan for airport development, contingency plans, 5/10 yr plan will report findings to school committee**
- Strategies to inform parents regarding graduation by proficiency**
- Commissioners review of high schools**
- Electronic portfolios**
- Discussion regarding benefits of graduation by proficiency**

Next meeting – Thursday, November 5, 2009 7p.m. Administration Bldg.

Motion to adjourn 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Nazareth